

Soviet minister asks for 'massive cooperation'

NEW YORK (AP) — Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin, in his first meeting with President Bush, called Tuesday for "massive cooperation" from the West to rebuild his country's economy. Mr. Bush said the Soviets need to move ahead on reforms. "The question is now not to wait and see how things develop in our country, but already to take very resolute action in providing both short-term and immediate humanitarian relief and assistance," Mr. Pankin said. Also, the foreign minister said, the Soviets need "medium-term cooperation and assistance in the form of loans and credits." And finally, he said, "we also expect some massive cooperation in the economic area." Mr. Bush said, "There wasn't any pricing or package put forward, but I reiterated our view of wanting to help with humanitarian assistance, whether it's medical, whether it's food, and then the need to get on with the reforms as the free market and technical assistance ... can move forward." Mr. Bush has promised to provide food and medicine to help the Soviets through the coming winter but so far has ruled out direct U.S. financial help.

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PNC debates Mideast peace: Palestinian hardliners toughen stance; moderates urge attendance; Ashrawi, Husseini to meet Baker in U.S.

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — Two Palestinians will travel to the United States this week for talks with Secretary of State James Baker on a planned Middle East peace conference, according to officials attending a Palestinian conference.

However, George Habash, leader of a hardline PLO faction, called Tuesday on Palestinians to reject the American peace plan.

He outlined a "programme of struggle" against Israel to create a Palestinian state.

Mr. Habash's remarks in an address to delegates of the Palestine National Council, on the second day of their four-day meeting, underlined the divisions over Palestinian participation in the peace conference, which PLO leader Yasser Arafat is trying to reconcile.

Mr. Habash, head of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, said his "programme of struggle" would inflict "economic, human and material losses on the Israeli enemy."

King receives Australian politician

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday received at the Royal Court the former Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser. The audience was attended by the King's military secretary His Royal Highness Prince Talal Ibn Mohammad, and the Australian ambassador to Jordan.

Cabinet appoints media officials

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet decided Tuesday to appoint Fayed Al Qdah, a former advisor at the Ministry of Information, as director of Radio Jordan, and Ibrahim Shabani, former director of Radio Jordan, as Jordan Television director. Former director of Jordan Television Mohammad Amin was appointed as an advisor at the Ministry of Information, according to the decision. The decision takes effect as of Oct. 1, 1991. The Cabinet also decided to grant the Agricultural Credit Corporation a JD 5 million loan without interest to be paid over 15 years.

Moroccan dissident dies in custody

RABAT (R) — A militant of Morocco's Communist opposition Party of Progress and Socialism died in custody after being beaten by security forces, the party's paper Al Bayan reported on Tuesday. The paper said Lema'guen Al Hachemi, 37, a street vegetable vendor, was arrested on Saturday when security forces raided a street market in Casablanca. Abderrahim, one of his five children, later saw him lying unconscious on the floor of the local municipal offices. He was taken to hospital but was pronounced dead on arrival. The paper said a death certificate issued on Monday stated he had died of natural causes in the municipal offices. In an editorial, the paper said Hachemi's death was "a veritable assassination committed by security forces."

Turkish troops kill 7 PKK fighters

DIYARBAKIR, Turkey (R) — Turkish troops, locked in a bitter war with Kurdish separatist guerrillas, killed seven rebels in four clashes, security officials said on Tuesday. The clashes took place on Monday in three of 13 mainly Kurdish eastern and southeastern provinces under emergency rule. Three fighters of the outlawed Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) were killed in a security sweep on Dicle town, in Diyarbakir province. Two died in a clash in Mardin in Bitlis province and one was killed in Dibek village in Diyarbakir province.

In his speech Monday opening the 20th congress of the PNC, Israel has forbidden Palestinians from Israel or the occupied Arab territories from meeting with the PLO. A government spokesman said they would be prosecuted if they broke that law.

The 465-member body, considered the Palestinians' parliament-in-exile, was to elect its executive committee Tuesday, with reports that Abul Abbas, leader of the Palestine Liberation Front, could lose his post.

PNC spokesman Ahmed Abdul Rahman announced late Monday that two Palestinian delegates from East Jerusalem would go to New York or Washington later this week for further consultations with Mr. Baker.

Faisal Husseini and Hanan Ashrawi, hand-picked by the PLO, have had several meetings with Mr. Baker, including last week, during the latter's Middle East tour.

It was not clear whether the

two were in Algiers to attend the meeting of the PNC. Israel has forbidden Palestinians from Israel or the occupied Arab territories from meeting with the PLO. A government spokesman said they would be prosecuted if they broke that law.

A closed-door session Monday, Farouk Kaddoumi, who acts as the PLO's foreign minister, said the PLO must adapt to the changing world order. Congress source's on Tuesday quoted Mr. Kaddoumi as saying that the PNC generally favours Mr. Baker's plan for a peace conference, but has reservations over the Palestinian representation.

Mr. Arafat, speaking to reporters Monday, said the PLO was willing to take part in a peace conference on condition that Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories, the Palestinian right to self-determination and the right to a homeland were guaranteed.

In his opening speech, Mr. Arafat compared Israeli conditions to blackmail. "Let everyone know that we reject Israeli blackmail and Israeli conditions," Mr. Arafat said. "We do that from our position of responsibility as representing the Palestinian people."

He called on President George Bush and Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev to "do all within

your power to resolve the Middle East problem ... in conformity with international law."

Israel has set the rule that PLO members or Palestinians from East Jerusalem may not participate in the peace talks.

Since the talks were announced in the PLO, the PLO has insisted it names the Palestinian representatives, who would include Palestinians from East Jerusalem. The PLO envisions a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital. Israel calls Jerusalem its capital.

In routine business Monday, the delegates re-elected PNC speaker Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh, 85.

On Tuesday, the PNC was to elect a new executive committee, the PLO's 15-member decision-making body, and raise its membership to 18. Current members include veteran fighters, a professor and a Palestinian poet.

Of note is whether executive committee member Abul Abbas,

(Continued on page 5)

Jordan, Yemen sign broad trade agreement

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday called at the Yemeni Prime Minister Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas at his residence and reviewed with him the latest developments in the region and the efforts being made to push the Mideast peace process forward. The King and Mr. Attas also reviewed bilateral relations. King Hussein was accompanied on his visit by Royal Court Chief Sheriff Zeid Ben Shaker.

Jordan and Yemen Tuesday agreed to increase the volume of trade between the two countries to \$10 million, including \$5 million to cover industrial sales contracts.

The agreement was made at the end of a two-day meeting of the Joint Higher Jordanian-Yemeni Committee, which ratified the minutes of the meetings.

The agreement provides for facilitating administrative procedures, governing the issuance of import licences from the Yemeni ministry of supply and trade, and for instructing government institutions in both countries, where possible, to import from each other. It further called for speeding up work on the establishment of a Yemeni trade centre in Amman.

The agreement calls on the private sector in both countries,

represented by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, professional unions, the business community and exporters and contractors associations, to set up joint projects.

The two parties also agreed to form a joint industrial committee which will meet once every year in either Amman or Sanaa. The committee will be entrusted with studying the needs of the industrial sector and discussing prospects of setting up joint projects in both countries.

In response to a proposal made by the Jordanian side, the two parties agreed to form a joint company for fishing and fish industry, and stressed the need for giving the private sector a major role in such an investment.

In the area of health, the two parties agreed to exchange specialised medical teams and to appoint medical attachés at Jordanian and Yemeni embassies in Sanaa and Amman.

The attachés will work out arrangements designed to lower the cost of treatment of Yemeni patients at Jordanian government hospitals before the end of this year.

In the area of oil and mining, the two sides agreed to set up joint companies for oil, gas and

other related services.

In the area of public works, it was agreed that Jordanian contractors and consultants be accorded priority in bidding for contracts in Yemen, in accordance with the rules and regulations in force there. The Jordanian side would provide advice and technical expertise to the Yemeni side in developing methods of work and to draw up the necessary legislation and regulations to improve performance of this sector.

The two sides also agreed to invite specialised maritime transport companies to hold a meeting within a maximum period of three months to study the possibility of operating a regular sea route and to increase the number of flights by each national airline to two flights a week.

The two sides also agreed to establish a permanent secretariat to follow up on the resolutions of the Higher Committee and the other sub-committees. The secretariat will meet once every three months and will present a progress report to the ministers of industry and trade in both countries.

The Jordanian side, headed by

(Continued on page 5)

Saud Al Faisal mediates between Qatar, Bahrain

NICOSIA (R) — Saudi Arabia's foreign minister, stepping up Riyadh's mediation in a growing territorial dispute between Bahrain and Qatar, met Bahrain's Emir Sheikh Isa Bin Salman Al Khalifa on Tuesday.

The official Gulf news agency said Prince Saud Al Faisal discussed Gulf Arab issues with the emir, Crown Prince Sheikh Hamed Bin Isa Al Khalifa and acting Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammad Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa.

There were no further details but diplomats said Prince Saud's visit indicated Saudi Arabia had reacted to an escalating fit-for-fit series of accusations and provocations between the two countries.

"The Saudis seem to have taken the latest hints quite seriously," one diplomat commented. Prince Saud met Qatar's Emir Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani in Doha earlier on Tuesday.

Qatar took the dispute to the International Court of Justice in The Hague last July.

Sri Lankan president accuses Mossad of plotting against him

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa, fighting against a campaign to have him impeached on Tuesday accused the Israeli intelligence agency Mossad of plotting against him.

Mossad has been activated against me because I closed the Israeli interests section in the American embassy, Mr. Premadasa told the opening session of parliament in a speech almost browned out by heckling opposition members.

There are some people in the government who had lectured at an Israeli university and are acting as Mossad agents, he said. He did not identify the alleged agents.

Former Education Minister Lalith Athulathmudali, leader of a group of dissident members of the ruling United National Party who with opposition members have signed an impeachment motion against the president, once lectured at an Israeli university.

Colombo cut diplomatic ties with Israel 20 years ago but in 1984 then President Junius Jayewardene allowed an Israeli interests section to be set up in the U.S. embassy in order to get aid to fight Tamil guerrillas.

Mr. Premadasa ignored a request by chief opposition whip Richard Pathirane to refrain from addressing parliament in light of the impeachment motion.

Mr. Premadasa closed the section in April last year to keep an election promise to Sri Lankan Muslims.

The president made his speech to parliament on Tuesday amid some of the most murky scenes in the house since independence in 1948.

He was opening a new session a month after suspending parliament to delay an early debate on the impeachment motion, which charges him with abusing power and violating the constitution.

Parliamentary speaker Mohammad Haniffa publicly apologised to Mr. Premadasa for what he called the "undecorous behaviour."

"I regret that the opposition has failed to keep the undertaking they gave me that there will be no disturbances," Mr. Mohammad said.

Signatories to the impeachment motion say their main aim is to dismantle presidential government and replace it with a more democratic parliamentary system.

Mr. Premadasa ignored a request by chief opposition whip Richard Pathirane to refrain from addressing parliament in light of the impeachment motion.

Bush warns Iraq 'not to miscalculate'; Iraqis detain U.N. team for second time

Aziz accuses team of spying for U.S.

NICOSIA (R) — Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz accused U.N. weapons inspectors held by security forces in central Baghdad on Tuesday of carrying out espionage for the United States.

He told a press conference in Baghdad the 45 inspectors were exceeding their U.N. mandate to search for evidence of Iraq's nuclear weapons programme.

Iraq would not allow them to serve "the purpose of the American and enemy intelligence," Mr. Aziz said according to the official news agency INA.

Four permanent members of the U.N. Security Council — Britain, France, the Soviet Union and China — the possibility of setting a 48-hour deadline for Iraq to comply or else U.S. warplanes would escort U.N. helicopters on their inspection missions.

Mr. Bush told reporters the United States was still assessing the detention of U.N. inspectors who were not allowed to take documents away from what U.S. officials described as a Baghdad building that was part of Iraq's clandestine nuclear weapons programme.

"Having said that, we do know enough about it to know that this is very serious business and that Saddam Hussein ought not to miscalculate on compliance with unconditional U.N. inspections, saying President Saddam risked more anguish being inflicted on the Iraqi people," he said.

Overriding that is the international community's determination that these resolutions be fully complied with," Mr. Bush said referring to U.N. resolutions requiring Iraq to allow U.N. inspectors full access to its weapons sites and permit destruction of its weapons of mass destruction.

"I don't know how to say it any clearer than that. You don't make decisions of this magnitude that could have an effect on human life without having all the information. I learned that some time ago," he said.

The United States this week has been discussing with the other

four permanent members of the U.N. Security Council — Britain, France, the Soviet Union and China — the possibility of setting a 48-hour deadline for Iraq to comply or else U.S. warplanes would escort U.N. helicopters on their inspection missions.

Mr. Bush said he was not at the point of declaring a deadline and added, "if I do, I'll make it very clear."

"But that's not what we're about now. We want to make sure we know the facts," he said.

Meanwhile, a U.N. nuclear weapons inspection team was detained by Iraqi security officials in central Baghdad on Tuesday for the second time in two days, U.N. officials said.

Team leader David Kay told reporters by car telephone the group was being held outside a building after being ordered out

at 11:00 a.m. local time (0800 GMT).

Mr. Kay said the group had been detained for 7/4 hours after being ejected from the building.

He said about 60 armed soldiers and security vans were stopping the team leaving the area.

Iraqis had unplugged a photocopier the 45-member group had been using inside the building, a records office.

Mr. Kay said the building contained the "complete administrative structure of Iraq's nuclear weapons programme" and showed that Baghdad was "seeking procurement of nuclear materials."

Iraqi officials who took reporters to the building said it contained only personnel records.

Iraq had refused to hand over the records to the team because they were confidential and it

Reporters were not able to see the group.

The Iraqi officials said only some of the group were still there "while discussions were continuing."

Mr. Kay said the group had sent out for food and water.

An army statement quoted by Reuters said a patrol captured Shawkat Fouad Shakar, 28, near Masser Al Shouf, 30 kilometres southeast of Beirut, at dawn after an overnight search.

Mr. Shakar drove to the town Monday from Beirut and shot and killed two civilians and a hunter, the agency quoted militia sources as saying. He then killed a passing Lebanese soldier, it said.

He opened fire on an army patrol, killing three soldiers, and escaped into the rugged country around the town. Troops searching for him later found the bodies of two other civilians he killed, according to the Reuters report. There was no immediate explanation to the conflicting versions of the incident.

The Druze sources quoted by Reuters said Mr. Shakar's parents were killed in the town in 1983 during the "mountain war" between militiamen. He and his brother fled to sanctuary in east Beirut.

Mr. Shakar's brother returned to Masser Al Shouf last year and shot dead a civilian before being killed at a PSP checkpoint.

Hasbani Rafsanjani

Mr. Bush has angered Israel by delaying \$10 billion in loan guarantees sought by Israel. Mr. Bush reportedly demands that Israel freeze its massive settlement drive in the occupied lands before granting the guarantees.

Mr. Aridor said Israel and the United States have cooperated for some time to get the 1975 U.N.

(Continued on page 5)

Lebanese group promises to free British hostage

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Pro-Iranian kidnappers said early Tuesday that within 48 hours they will release British hostage Jack Mann, 77, the oldest of the Western hostages who was abducted more than two years ago.

The move by the Revolutionary Justice Organisation appeared to indicate that a logjam in the complex negotiations by U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar for a comprehensive exchange of Western captives for Arab prisoners held by Israel, and possibly European countries as well, has been broken.

A handwritten communique from the Shiite Muslim group said the decision to free Mr. Mann was the result of "immense efforts" by Mr. Perez de Cuellar.

He has been seeking to negotiate an overall prisoner swap between Israel and its foes for more than a month.

In Nicosia, Cyprus, Mr. Mann's wife Sunnie said, "I think this time I'm going to be a little more cautious," she said, her white poodle Missy licking her face.

If her husband of more than 50 years is released Mrs. Mann hopes to fly to Damascus to meet him. She last saw him the day he was kidnapped — May 12, 1989.

In a dispatch from Beirut,

Iran's official Islamic Republic news agency said Mr. Mann will be freed by midnight (2100 GMT Tuesday), or 24 hours before the deadline for his release set by his captors in a statement released earlier Tuesday.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, attributed its report to "informed sources" in Beirut. The two-paragraph report gave no other details.

A senior Iranian official was quoted Tuesday as saying all Western hostages held by Shiite Muslim fundamentalists in Lebanon will be freed by January, the official Islamic Republic news agency said.

Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Mohammad Besharati accused Israel in an interview with the English-language Tehran Times of trying to block United Nations-led efforts to secure the release of the Westerners in return for Arab detainees.

Excerpts of the interview, published in the English-language newspaper, were carried by IRNA, monitored in Nicosia.

Mr. Besharati, reportedly one of senior Iranian diplomats trying to help mediate the release of the captives, said Iran was optimistic that the "Zionist plot would be neutralized," and that "by January, all hostages irrespective of their nationalities will be able to go home."

Revolutionary justice said in Thursday's statement that no more of the remaining 11 Westerners missing in Lebanon would be



Jack Mann freed until Israel released another 20 Arabs.

The kidnappers authenticated that communique with a coloured photograph of Mr. Cicippio, also held by the Revolutionary Justice Organisation.

Mr. Cicippio, 61, was kidnapped in Beirut Sept. 12, 1986. The poor-quality photo showed him from the waist up, sporting a bushy beard and without the spectacles he usually wears.

Iran's Tehran Times newspaper in an article for publication Wednesday also quoted sources close to the kidnappers in Lebanon as saying that a Briton and an American will be freed this week.

The kidnapper's statement indicated that obstacles in the delicate negotiations to free the Western hostages, which apparently blocked the expected release of Mr. Mann last week, had been overcome.

Mr. Mann had been expected to be freed after Israel on Sept. 11 released 51 Arab prisoners and the bodies of nine Lebanese Shiite fighters killed by the Israelis in south Lebanon.

But Revolutionary Justice claimed Thursday that Israel had pledged to release 80 prisoners and Mr. Mann was not freed.

The Shiites factions freed Britons John McCarthy and American Edward Tracy in August after years in captivity.

"They sought to narrow the gap and reach solutions satisfactory to all parties," it added.

Israel defiant despite Bush gesture

By Daniel Reed
Reuter

TEL AVIV — Despite a gesture by President George Bush to reassure them of U.S. support, Israeli leaders are still talking.

Mr. Bush Monday called on the United Nations General Assembly to repeal a 1975 resolution equating Zionism with racism.

The call was widely interpreted as an attempt by Mr. Bush to ease Israeli-U.S. relations troubled by the peace process and by construction of Israeli settlements in the occupied territories.

But the call brought only a brief intermission in the war of words between the two countries.

Defense Minister Moshe Arens said Monday night that Israel would continue to build settle-

ments in the territories even at the risk of losing loan guarantees from Washington.

"We won't freeze the settlements at any price. Not even at the cost of the American loan guarantees ... The cost of not getting the guarantees is simply higher interest rates. We can put up with that," Mr. Arens told reporters.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir praised Bush's call. He said it was touching, impressive and very convincing — but he also indicated Israel would not compromise on the occupied territories.

"In my opinion there is no longer a green line," Mr. Shamir told reporters in Jerusalem, referring to the imaginary line that defines Israel's pre-1967 borders.

Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu was more explicit.

"We (Israel and the U.S.) both agree that we must oppose this resolution because we both agree that the Jewish people have a right to a state of their own."

"Where we disagree is how wide that state will be. The U.S. says we can't have a country 10 miles (16 km) wide and survive," Mr. Netanyahu told NBC news.

U.N. Resolution 379, which declared Zionism to be form of racism and racial discrimination, was passed by a 72-35 majority with 35 abstentions.

Mr. Bush said Monday that the resolution "rejects Israel itself" and must be repealed in order for the U.N. to truly seek peace.

It was Mr. Bush's first conciliatory remark towards Israel since a touch speech on Sept. 6 in which he said he would veto loan guarantees to Israel if they were explicit.

approved in Congress.

Israel wants the guarantees to be able to borrow \$10 billion on world markets to help settle new immigrants from the Soviet Union.

U.S. officials have linked the guarantees to a halt in Israel's settlement drive in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, and its cooperation in the peace process.

Israel's left-wing Peace Now Organisation sent a message to Mr. Shamir's Monday condemning the government's settlement policy.

"On the eve of the U.N. discussion to cancel its horrible decision comparing Zionism with racism, your government announces it is canceling the green line, which is the buffer between Zionism and a bi-national apartheid state," it said.



Ali Akbar Velayati

Iraq hands over documents

NICOSIA (R) — Iraq, under threat of U.S. military intervention, handed over documents on its nuclear weapons programme on Tuesday but a Vienna-based U.N. agency said inspectors had not received the most sensitive ones.

Iraqi officials said the documents, at the centre of the latest row between Iraq and the United Nations, were delivered to team leader David Kay at his Baghdad hotel.

The inspectors, who were held for five hours at a Baghdad compound on Monday, have said the documents they saw there showed Iraq's nuclear weapons programme was much further advanced than had previously been suspected.

But the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said on Tuesday some of the material was missing from the load the Iraqis had now handed over.

"An Iraqi official showed up at the hotel bedroom of the chief inspector at 1:30 in the morning and handed over documents in some cardboard boxes," spokesman David Kydd said.

"None of the most sensitive ones, nor the microfilms or microfiches from the previous day, were there," he added.

The row has added to suspicions that Iraq is still trying to hide some of its weapons of mass destruction, under Gulf War ceasefire resolution the United Nations has the right to seek out and destroy.

U.S. President George Bush on Monday cited the incident as evidence of Iraqi contempt for U.N. resolutions.

The United States is seeking U.N. support for assigning armed air escorts to the inspection teams so they can travel about in U.N. helicopters of Iraqi restrictions.

Washington has also asked the Security Council to consider giving Iraq a 48-hour ultimatum to allow unimpeded access.

In Bahrain, the field headquarters for U.N. teams flying in and out of Iraq, a U.N. official said the inspectors could have an armed escort for their helicopters from next Sunday.

Alastair Livingston, field operations chief for the U.N. special commission on the destruction of

Iraq's weapons, told Reuters the next U.N. team to go in would be a 20-member group trying to inspect ballistic weapons sites in western Iraq.

"Plans are fluid at this stage but the team is scheduled to go on September 29 (Sunday)," he said.

"They could conceivably be the first to go in with an armed escort for their helicopters," he added.

Rear Admiral Raynor Taylor, U.S. naval commander in the Gulf, said on Monday detailed contingency plans for the operation had already been drawn up and more warplanes could be sent to the area to help carry it out.

In Baghdad, new Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammad Hanafi Al Zubaidi was quoted as saying Baghdad expected fresh American aggression because of the disputes.

He told the newspaper Babil, owned by President Saddam Hussein's son Uday, that Washington had seized on disagreement over the use of helicopters by U.N. teams as a "pretext to maintain sanctions and other inhuman acts against our people and to commit an act of aggression."

"We are expecting such an aggressive act."

"Do you mean a new attack? he was asked. "We should be ready at all times," he replied.

Mr. Livingston said the 45-member nuclear team now in Iraq was scheduled to come out on Saturday and a 13-member biological weapons team also to imitate their "saviors" in dress, hairstyle and manners.

This has caused concern among many traditional Kuwaitis, who fear their young men are being lured away from the Arab traditions that have dominated this closed society for centuries.

But if tension escalated, the U.N. inspectors could leave early and go back with armed escorts, he added.

Jordan Times
Tel: 667171

Rockets hit Najibullah's home

KABUL (R) — Afghan rebels fired rockets into President Najibullah's hometown Monday, killing five civilians and wounding 15, official Kabul Radio reported.

The radio said the surface-to-surface missiles launched by the Pakistan-based Mujahideen hit the eastern town of Gardez, which the Muslim guerrillas have vowed to capture.

A government spokesman said earlier guerrilla attacks had killed and injured many people in the town over the last week.

But he said government planes had attacked a rebel convoy, causing substantial damage, and the rebels had failed to penetrate a security belt some 25 kilometres from Gardez.

Government forces still control an important security post at Siti-kanda in mountains separating Gardez from the rebel-held Khost area, he said.

The new Kuwaitis can mostly be seen in the main street of the middle-class Salimiyah area.

Young men dressed in T-shirts, jeans and shorts — instead of the dishdashah, the traditional long robe of the Gulf Arabs — drive around in sleek new cars with disco music blaring out the windows.

Others swagger in the streets with marine haircuts, pestering girls and laughing loudly.

Several papers have denounced the "Americanisation" of Kuwaiti youth.

"Whether we like it or not, we

woman who murdered Mr. Igashishi wore 27.5 cm Chinese-made sandals and was more than 180 cm tall.

Similar sandals were sold in Japan, he said.

The official said police were still investigating but had so far not asked any foreign authorities for help.

Mr. Igashishi was the second Rusdi translator to be attacked in July. Ettore Caprioli, 61, who translated the book into Italian, was stabbed at his Milan flat on July 3.

Iran's Islamic authorities had condemned "The Satanic Verses" as blasphemous two years ago and sentenced author Salman Rushdie to death. He has lived in hiding in Britain ever since.

More than two months after the killing, police declined to say whether Mr. Igashishi's death was linked to publication of the Japanese version of the novel.

So far, they said, the only clue to the killer's identity came from blood-stained footprints left at the scene of the crime.

They indicated that the man or

woman was Muslim-Arabs. This means we have traditions, values and a culture taken from the religion," said an editorial in Al Qabas.

"We should not disclaim (them)."

Many young men say they are just imitating America's "good aspects."

"We're not blindly imitating the Americans," said Mish'el Sarraf, 20, a student. "We're just copying the nice things."

"I had this marine haircut because I want to imitate the Americans," said Hamed Ahmed As-Salem, 19, a student.

"The Americans are not like the Arabs," he added. "When they make up their minds to do something, they do it. They don't procrastinate."

Some, however, are still self-

Ethiopian civil war claimed 1/2 million troops

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP) — The defense minister says an estimated 550,000 government soldiers were killed in the civil war, nearly half in the five months of intense battle before former President Mengistu Haile Mariam fled in May.

Quoting ministry records, Defense Minister Siye Abraha said in two long interviews with Ethiopian television over the weekend that the toppled regime had recruited and trained more than a million people during Gen. Mengistu's 17-year rule.

At least 230,000 soldiers were killed in fighting between January and May when rebels seized control of the capital and another 300,000 were believed killed in the preceding 17 years, said Mr. Siye.

Mr. Siye was named to the ministry of defense post after the Ethiopian people's Revolutionary Democratic Front seized control of the government May 28. Gen. Mengistu fled to Zimbabwe a week before the takeover which followed heavy fighting and un-

preceded gains by the rebels as they pushed south from their homeland in the northern province of Tigray.

Mr. Siye said ministry records showed that Gen. Mengistu, who was heavily subsidised by the Soviets from the late 1970s until the late 1980s, spent \$9.4 billion on arms purchases. The purchases included 224 warplanes and helicopter gunships, 1,700 tanks, 1,300 armoured personnel carriers and more than 4,000 pieces of heavy artillery and anti-aircraft guns, said Mr. Siye.

"Under Gen. Mengistu, the defense budget rose from about \$53 million in 1974 to \$1.1 billion in 1991," said the defense minister.

The total arms purchases and the defense and security budget was \$17.3 billion in 17 years, a huge expenditure for an impoverished nation, Mr. Siye said.

Gen. Mengistu poured the money into his effort to crush civil war in the northern provinces of Eritrea, where secessionist rebels had been fighting since 1962.

"So the young men have transferred their anger against their society," she added. "It gives them satisfaction to see someone shocked at the way they're dressed."

"In addition, these young men look up to the Americans as their saviors. One way of expressing their gratitude is by imitating them," she noted.

Ms. Dora's added that Kuwaiti society was poorly equipped to deal with this youthful experimentation.

"I hope this rebellion will be treated wisely," she said. "But everybody is a bit unbalanced after the traumatic events, so even the parents are in no position to help their children."

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

12:25	Istanbul (R)
13:10	Madrid, Geneva (R)
13:15	London, Brussels (R)
13:15	Paris, Rome (R)
13:45	Vienna, Frankfurt (R)
23:30	Paris (R)
Other Flights (Terminal 2)	
13:00	Stavros (Y)
13:20	Cairo (M)
13:45	Bangkok (L)
14:00</	

PNC debates peace

(Continued from page 1)

suspected of masterminding the 1985 hijacking of the cruise ship Achille Lauro and planning the failed attack on an Israeli beach that led to the breaking of the U.S.-PLO dialogue, will retain his post.

Some PLO factions reportedly want him out to distance the PLO from terrorism.

Mr. Abbas told reporters Monday that he would leave the executive committee if voted out, but would not step aside voluntarily.

Patriots bypassed

Mr. Arafat's advisor, Nabil Shaath told Reuters Mr. Habash and other hardliners were "patriots who have been bypassed."

"The Palestinian answer is yes to the conference if we guarantee our reasonable red lines (minimum demands). They are not pretenses for rejection. They are reasonable conditions for entry (to the talks)," Mr. Shaath said.

Nayef Hawwash, the leader of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) addressing the full PNC later, said, "I invite all factions of the Palestinian revolution to reject this peace conference under the formula proposed by the United States and to insist on an international conference according to international legality."

PLO officials said they were pursuing diplomatic contacts with the United States as the PNC debated the U.S. proposals.

PLO officials said they seek further written clarification on the U.S. stand on Palestinian representation at the conference and on the framework for the talks, including the question of new Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza.

Mr. Shaath said the settlements problem "could make or break

Jordan, Yemen reach agreement

(Continued from page 1)

Prime Minister Taher Massi and the Yemeni side, headed by Mr. Attas, stressed the importance of intensifying efforts to overcome the negative impacts caused by the Gulf crisis. Both prime ministers said that the meetings took place in a brotherly atmosphere, dominated by mutual understanding.

In a press statement, Mr. Massi said at the end of the meeting he hoped the results of this cooperation would transcend routine dealings. He voiced hope that the agreement would serve as a start-

Rafsanjani slams Bush

(Continued from page 1)

resolution repeated.

He would not say if a majority was assured.

Israeli President Chaim Herzog on Tuesday praised Mr. Bush's remarks, saying they had "great historical significance not only for Israel, but for all the Jewish people."

Mr. Herzog suggested Tuesday that the chances of attainment were good, partly because the United Nations wants to play a role in the Middle East peace process.

"They understand in the United Nations that they cannot be a factor in everything concerning the Middle East as long as this decision still exists," Mr. Herzog said on Israeli army radio.

In the only editorial reacting to

the peace process."

Meanwhile, a group of younger Palestinian leaders seeking change at the top are demanding a complete overhaul of its executive.

"We must renew our policy and our leaders, and Yasser Arafat personally should lead this change," Nabil Amr, a 43-year-old Palestinian diplomat told Reuters.

"I totally share the analysis of U.S. Secretary of State James Baker when he said the Palestinians must seize this unique chance for peace offered by the peace conference ... We Palestinians must seriously cooperate with the American stand for peace," he said.

Colleagues say Mr. Amr, currently PLO ambassador to Moscow, represents a new generation of pragmatic leaders whose realism contrasts with the inflamed statements from the old guard heading factions both within and outside the PLO.

Mr. Amr's own role appears unassailable, with Palestinians of all colors saying he remains the symbol of Palestinian nationhood.

Mr. Amr is reputed to be close to Mr. Arafat but it is not clear if the PLO leader shares any of his views.

Mr. Amr is the author of a confidential report which strongly criticizes the management of the PLO and especially the consequences of its pro-Iraqi stand during the conflict.

"We are still suffering from the forces who opposed us after the ambiguity which came into our stand during the Gulf crisis ... the new leadership will have to make major efforts to establish bridges with the forces which are shaping the new world order and cooperate with these forces with flexibility and responsibility," he said.

Mr. Shaath said the settlements

problem "could make or break

Drug abuse: Motivation, education, effects on the nation

By Barbara Atalla

LIFE pressures are genuine reasons why people abuse drugs and should be taken seriously. However, just discovering why people abuse drugs would not help them abstain. Many issues must be treated simultaneously by an addiction specialist.

Drug dependency, with its depth and dimensions, is one of the most widespread and costly illnesses facing us today. People need a better understanding of what it is they get addicted to, and what happens to people who suffer from this problem.

The usual information we hear is: "Drugs are dangerous"; "Stop using drugs or don't start" or "If we ban all harmful drugs, people will not use and abuse them." The danger here is the lack of knowledge and up-to-date information on drugs. Many who seek help for abuse are told to stop using drugs and hear scare tactics, but are seldom told how to live comfortable lives without using/abusing drugs. Many also, who have become dependent, are given other drugs which will in time take them back to their drug of choice.

In the past, the term "addiction" had a very limited focus, being associated almost entirely with alcohol and other drugs. In reality, this is not the case at all. There are many addicts who have never used mood-altering chemicals in their rituals of getting high. There are hundreds of food addicts, addicted gamblers, sex addicts, shoplifters, addictive spenders, and many others who are living lives of emotional isolation, shame, and despair caused by their own brand of addiction.

People need help to monitor their identified addictions and prevent their transformation into other addictions. There is need for drug awareness education, in Jordan. People can learn to make healthy choices if they have good decision-making skills, assertiveness and refusal skills coupled with healthy alternative ways of having fun or dealing with pressure and feeling good about themselves.

Young people in particular need positive life experiences and alternatives to chemicals. They need strong support so they feel good about the healthy choices they make. This takes place in the homes and in schools. We, as educators, (parents as well) need to help people develop resilience so when they are faced with tough decisions they are more apt to make healthy choices for themselves and the society.

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and we have an admirable one, but we must at the same time develop a strong, healthy and informed population which neither requires nor desires those substances.

Jordan has set an example to the world in its humanitarian stance. Let us continue to move forward and be more open to our problems, so healing can take place. All of us must keep clear heads and clear hearts in order to fulfill our nation's goals. Those who consume and abuse drugs are contributing to the assassination of their country. They need not be punished, but treated. Until we recognise that, until users stop buying drugs and doctors gain more awareness of the dependency personality, people will always find new supplies when old ones have disappeared.

One of the most important elements in this awareness is that drugs are one of the leading causes of the spread of the AIDS virus.

Homes, studies and relationships are effected, the productivity and creativity in the workplace are also strained. Every alcoholic or other drug addict affect 4-7 people and society in general. What we usually hear is: "We don't have a drug problem in Jordan, just a few isolated cases." The discovery is that many people do not consider alcohol a drug, which it is. It is a sedative drug, not a stimulant as many people believe it to be. It is also a drug that is crime-related. Illicit drugs such as heroin and

cocaine appear to warrant all the attention. Indeed, it should be a great concern. Users steal to feed their habit and can become dealers. However, alcohol can be connected to much of the violence — physical and emotional abuse within the family system. Most heroin and cocaine users, use alcohol, either to switch drugs or to use for the withdrawal, restlessness, agitation, depression and sleeplessness caused by cessation.

Police and pathologists agree that we need a better drug-testing, data-collecting, evaluation and follow-up systems for the continuum of care for the population.

Glue, sniffing and other inhalants' usage is growing among the youth. Not to mention marijuana use. This is not a harmless little habit! These are known to be the gate-way drugs to alcohol, heroin, cocaine and other drug dependency. No one wakes up one morning and becomes a heroin addict or an alcoholic. It starts somewhere else, and many abusers may get treated for their emotional behaviours and/or withdrawals, but their primary illness may not be dealt with. They may get more or different medication which in time can take them back to their drug of choice and start the cycle all over again.

An alarming number of people in Jordan are unknowingly addicted to anti-anxiety drugs, valiums, sleeping pills, anti-depressants and diet pills. This is

so long as our population continues to demand them, and people will continue to demand them until we change some beliefs and attitudes. We have a real problem with pills, alcohol and marijuana, yet it appears that legislators remain far more alarmed about the time-bomb ticking away in the car next to them whose driver — pilot, taxi or bus driver, teacher, parent or professional health care worker — could be dazed on valium, high on hashish or just shaking from the night before. What kind of message do we send, when one intoxicant is soundly condemned while another is written off as youthful exuberance or some sort of quasi-legitimate rite of passage? Even with the total eradication of heroin, cocaine, alcohol and marijuana, there will always be a percentage of people who will find a way "to feel better," some to the point of intoxication. We need to inform and hope healthy choices will be made. All professionals need to get out of the isolation mode, work as a team for the sake of people. Safety and security start with knowledge. We have an intoxication problem, not a drug problem.

The writer is a certified chemical dependency practitioner at Al Maw'el, the National Centre for Psychological and Educational Consultation. She contributed the above article to the Jordan Times.

such treatment when they are cut off from the outside world."

In order to extract information or confessions, or simply as a means of punishment, detainees are "systematically hooded with dirty sacks and deprived of food or sleep, usually by being shackled in painful positions, while held in solitary confinement," says AI. "They are also frequently beaten all over their bodies, including their genitals, and held in rooms so small and dark detainees call them 'coffins' or ones so cold they are called 'refrigerators.' CAABU Bulletin

Rising crime wave adds to Iraq's problems

By Peter Gregson

Reuter

BAGHDAD — Out of the blazing heat of a Baghdad lunchtime, three young men walked into a gold merchant's shop in the capital's bustling Karrada district recently.

One pulled a gun, shot the owner dead and the three grabbed all the jewellery on display before escaping through streets jammed with traffic.

It was the most serious incident in a growing crime wave that is adding to Iraq's post-Gulf war social and economic woes and which President Saddam Hussein has just publicly acknowledged for the first time.

In some world cities, the murder of a gold merchant may not have attracted much attention.

But in Iraq, traditionally a land of little crime and where a large and powerful security apparatus has operated for years, it was an aberration meriting splash treatment in the national press. Police said they had quickly caught two of the three suspects.

Mr. Saddam told a meeting of his ruling Baath Party this month that there had been a breakdown of law and order in some parts of the country since the Gulf war.

With its economy weakening daily under the grip of a 13-month old U.N. trade embargo, the effects of Iraq's seizure of Kuwait and subsequent expulsion are spreading through society like a shock wave.

Begging was little known until recently in a country where ample staple food for all was imported and sold at heavily-subsidised

criminals who are taking advantage of the poor and needy."

Iraq has some of the toughest penalties for crime in the world, with thieves facing life imprisonment or occasionally death.

Food rations at subsidised prices now meet only about a third of average consumption.

Recently, Iraq's Supreme Court discussed whether to drop prosecutions of home owners who shoot dead burglars within their premises.

But the penalties seem to have little effect. "The amount of work is huge. We're not used to dealing with 20 to 30 burglaries a night," said a police officer working in just one district of this sprawling city of five million people.

Asked to park down a side-street in one area of town, he refused, saying: "Too many Ali Babas" — a reference to the robber leader and his 40 thieves in the tales of the Arabian nights.

Many Iraqis, distrustful of banks, keep gold, jewellery and cash at home, particularly old pre-Gulf war notes which are less likely to be forged.

New 25, 50 and 100 dinar bills were issued after the August 1990 invasion of Kuwait as prices started to rise. But there has been a large number of forgeries and many establishments with a cash register has a long list of the serial numbers of known fakes.

Stolen cars are often driven over the border to Iran or Turkey, where they are sold for U.S. dollars — the currency of a burgeoning black market that authorities seem powerless to control despite a call by Mr. Saddam to stamp out "the profiteers and

speculators."

Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, the man in charge of the post-Gulf war relief effort, linked rising crime to falling living standards.

Amnesty assails Israeli military courts

AMNESTY International has strongly criticised Israel's military justice system in the occupied territories, saying that the "odds are stacked against" Palestinian civilians having fair trials. Flaws in the system include the routine torture or ill-treatment of suspects during interrogation, says Amnesty International (AI).

In a newly published report, the human rights organisation says that it has serious concerns about the entire legal process, from the time a suspect is arrested to when the case is closed, under which thousands of Palestinians are tried each year.

AI says that the system is

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Kankkunen wins Australian Rally, closes on Sainz

PERTH, Australia (R) — Finland's Jutta Kankkunen won his third successive Australian Rally Tuesday ahead of Sweden's Kenneth Eriksson and closed the gap on reigning World Champion Carlos Sainz in the 1991 world drivers' title.

Kankkunen, the only man to win the Australian round of the World Championship since its inception in 1989, steered his Lancia over the 594 kilometres of special stages in five hours, 48 minutes and 48 seconds.

The consistent Finn won 20 stage victories of the 39 contested over the five days of racing through the forests on the outskirts of Perth.

Spanish driver Sainz failed to win any points in the rally after crashing out Sunday and Kankkunen's 20 points take him to 123, only two points behind his arch-rival in the world standings.

Only 36 of the original 60 starters finished the race.

Chesnokov advances in Queensland

BRISBANE, Australia (AP) — Andrei Chesnokov returned to tennis after a two-week fishing holiday Tuesday and breezed past Australian teenager Patrick Rafter 6-4, 6-1 in the first round of the \$250,000 Queensland Open.

Chesnokov, the No. 2 seed, took just 58 minutes to defeat 18-year-old qualifier Rafter in his first match after spending 15 days fishing for shark and barracuda off the Florida Coast.

Spain coach seeks players' commitment against Iceland

REYKJAVIK (R) — New Spanish coach Vicente Miera is demanding total commitment from his players for Wednesday's European Championship qualifier in Iceland despite having only the remotest chance of reaching the finals.

"I won't accept slackening of effort. It will be hard but we are better than Iceland," said Miera, whose first game in charge was a 2-1 win over Uruguay on Sept. 4.

Although only a miracle can stop France qualifying from Group 1 for next year's finals in Sweden at Spain's expense, Miera is looking for a good win for the sake of national pride.

Spain have always beaten Iceland but never by more than one goal, and Miera particularly fears the normally cold and windy conditions in Reykjavik.

"Even though our chances of qualifying for Sweden are remote, we have to give it everything in this match and the others

Denmark looking for big win against Faroe Islands

LANDSKRONA, Sweden (R) — Denmark will field an attacking line-up as they seek a high-scoring victory against the amateur Faroe Islands in Wednesday's European Championship Soccer qualifier.

"We should start the match with all four attackers," goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel said Tuesday.

"If Northern Ireland can beat the Faroes 5-0, we should do at least as well — and I think we will," added the Manchester United keeper.

The Danes have had a recent run of poor results as they struggle to rebuild their team after failing to reach last year's World Cup finals and managed only a 0-0 draw against Iceland three weeks ago.

None of the Danish strikers

have been among the goals lately, and they are counting on the part-time Faroes' weak defence rather than their own scoring record to plunder the goals that could decide who qualifies for the finals in Sweden.

Yugoslavia lead the group, from which one team qualifies, by three points from Denmark, who have a game in hand.

Flemming Povlsen has to compete with German veteran Frank Mill for a slot in the Borussia Dortmund attacks, and Bent Christensen has yet to score for his new club, Schalke 04.

For the Faroes, an autonomous region of Denmark, the Danes are the big brother they really want to beat, but by now they can have few illusions.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

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REINCARNATION

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♦ Q 5
♦ 9 8 3

10 6

♦ A 8 7 6 4 2

WEST

♦ J 7 6 4 3

♦ 10 9 8 2

♦ K 6 4

♦ Q 7 2

♦ K 5 4

♦ A 7 3

♦ Q 10 9

SOUTH

♦ A K

♦ A J 10 2

♦ A J 9 6 3

♦ K 5

The bidding:

South West North East

2 NT Pass 3 NT Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Four of ♦

There are many hands that, supposedly, occurred at the table and featured brilliant play or defense by a star player. Thorough investigation often turns up the fact that they really were problem compositions. We have seen today's hand in many guises. To the best of our knowledge, this is the form in which it was originally conceived by one of the greatest problem composers of any era, the late Robert Darvas.

At the table, let's suppose that South mixes up a diamond with the clubs and opens two no trump. (Many of today's players would opt for that opening bid anyway, for a

Fredericks, weary but motivated, wins Namibia's 1st African gold

CAIRO (R) —

Frankie Fredericks was just as weary as the other track stars who made their excuses and passed up the All African Games, which offer no prize money and get little notice outside the continent.

Fredericks, driving a Mitsubishi, finished second 73 seconds behind Kankkunen.

Germany's Armin Schwarz steered his Toyota Celica into third place, nearly four minutes behind the leader, while Finn Markku Ajen finished fourth in a Subaru.

Australia's Ross Dunkerton finished in seventh position nearly 10 minutes behind Kankkunen but high enough to be the best placed Australian and seal the Asian-Pacific Rally Championship.

Only 36 of the original 60 starters finished the race.

He returned from vacation with a request — that he now be referred to as a Russian, not a Soviet.

"I don't want to be from the Soviet Union. I prefer to be called Russian," said the Canadian Open champion.

"I know Russian history. The country was Russia until 1917. After that we didn't build anything, we just destroyed."

England striker signs for Arsenal

LONDON (R) — England striker Ian Wright joined league champions Arsenal Monday for a club record \$2.5 million (\$4.3 million) from fellow first division Crystal Palace, the club said.

Wright, who has scored five goals in eight games this season, cost

nearly twice as much as the previous record Arsenal signing — \$1.3 million (\$2.25 million) goalkeeper David Seaman.

The 27-year-old striker joined Palace six years ago and earned the first

of four England caps against Cameroon last February.

The signing went through for Wright to play in Wednesday's

League Cup second round first leg at Leicester — if he can get

into a team who have scored 15 goals in their last three games,

including four against Palace.

Last week Arsenal Manager Graham agreed to pay £500,000 (\$860,000) for Norwegian full-back Pal Lydersen, a transfer dependent on the grant of a

work permit.

Johnston turns down Liverpool offer

SYDNEY (R) — Australian soccer star Craig Johnston said Tuesday he had turned down an offer to rejoin leading English soccer club Liverpool. Johnston shocked Liverpool by suddenly announcing his retirement in 1988 while still contracted to the first division club.

However, earlier this year he had talked with Manager Graeme Souness about resuming his career. But Johnston, 30, said he had received an attractive offer from Europe to produce a television game show he has created and which has proved popular in Australia. "I made a decision on the weekend and called Liverpool and said because of the latest offer I would not be able to go back and play football ever again — because of this huge commitment," Johnston told Australian Associated Press (AAP). "Souness is a very tough man, a very, very tough negotiator and it wasn't easy to tell him that I wasn't coming back," Johnston said.

Becker to play Australian indoor

SYDNEY (R) — World number two Boris Becker confirmed on Monday he will make his comeback from injury at next week's Australian Indoor Tennis Championship in Sydney. Becker's New York-based management told tournament organisers the three-time Wimbledon champion would be back to defend the title he won last year. "Boris has had back problems which forced him to pull out of Germany's Davis Cup semifinal but he's back to training two hours a day now," tournament organiser Graham Lovett said. "The only player in doubt among the strongest-ever field for the \$1 million event is Yugoslav Goran Ivanisevic. Ivanisevic has also had back trouble and withdrew from this week's Queensland Open where he was top seed.

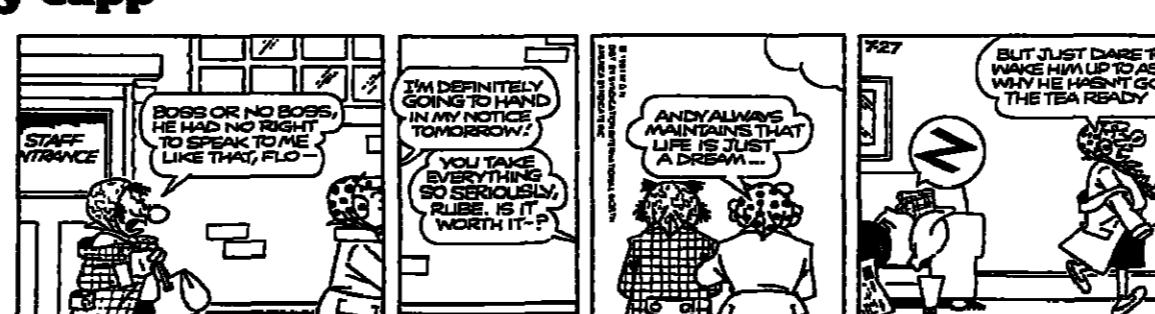
Meskhii wins first round in Bayonne

BAYONNE, France (AP) — Second-seeded Leila Meskhii of the Soviet Union defeated Germany's Wiltrud Probst, 7-5, 6-4 in the first round of the \$150,000 Bayonne Open. Unseeded Claudia Forwick of Germany downed Denisa Szabova of Czechoslovakia 6-1, 6-3. The top seed, Manuela Maleeva-Fraguetti of Switzerland, faces France's Alexia Dechaume. No. 3 seed Nathalie Tauziat of France, who beat American Zina Garrison for the title last year, meets fellow Frenchwoman Anges Zugasti.

Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt 'n' Jeff



HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 25, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

life so don't say any bad remarks or best of all steel clear of him.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) This is your time to get at all the projects that are to be done and you would be wise to do them yourself without trying to get assistance.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You really to have and you deserve a good time now but if no time to spend more than you can afford on some temporary pleasures.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 19) You can have a regular enjoyable time with members of your family or any others in your household if you dispute with them to keep silent.

GOVINDA: (January 21 to June 21) You have some urge to get out with friends and enjoy yourself a bit but there are material and financial problems that have to be faced.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) This is your day to do whatever you want to do in the outside world that pertains to your career do not try to get out of it.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You have so many interesting conditions you want to put in effect you can hardly wait and be impatient with those uninterested in the important things you have promised to do.

WIRGO: (August 22 to September 21) You have so many little obligations to do that you would be wise to forget those tempting new interests and get at them and get them behind you.

LIBRA: (September 22 to October 21) Now you could really make an opportunity out of a partner who is vital in your life.

The stars impel, "What you make of your life is largely up to you."

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THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



JUMBLE

THAT SCRABBLING WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RETEB

VENIA

GETMAN

CHOSOL

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: DOWNTY LOONY MODIFY ENTRE

Answer: "I've got what no millionaire has got" — NO MONEY

THE Daily Crossword

by Harvey L. Chew



ACROSS

1. 1000 ft. on Oriental staple
10. Lawgiver
14. In addition
15. At a distance
17. In the center of traffic here
19. Verme captain
20. Hirt and Capone
21. Press
22. Philadelphia team
24. Things to be done
26. Charming girl
28. Stone help
30. Genteel Rice
32. Comic Johnson
33. Arabian gazelle
34. Escalated
40. City of voting
42. So, that's it.
43. Kid's marble
45. Church group
46. Bumper plating
48. Frog
52. Tea
53. Shore
54. NYC
55. Speak extravagantly
57. What Lee fought for
60. Fr. friends
62. Sleepy little burg
64. Inseparable talk
65. Be borne
67. Finishes
68. Fr. sculptor
69. Put on

11. At (Festivity)
12. Bedrock's mount
13. Razzledy-edged
18. Very: Fr.
20. White poplar
24. Kind of code
26. Wonderland girl
27. 37th state
28. Foot part
29. Head with a single thought
31. Mad de —
33. US president
35. Poker term
38. Basin
39. Kitchen tool
40. Set
41. Talking horse on TV
44. Vacuum tube
47. Elevates
48. Woks
49. Comes in
50. Serenity

51. Violin Mucha
52. Street show<br

Turmoil continues to reign within women's federation as election nears

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — After over one year of disputed and court cases pertaining to the legality of the Jordanian Women's Federation (JWF) elections in August 1990, the group has set a new date for national elections.

As many women activists brace themselves for the scheduled Oct. 18 national elections, at least one group have said that they will boycott the polls.

The Islamic Women's Group, headed by interim Executive Committee members Mahdiyah Zmelie and Suad Saqaa, announced their boycott of the elections on the ground that the elections are not "likely to be representative." They charged that the interim committee headed by Siham Al Kaseem was "unorganized and inefficient."

But the eight municipal councils in the Kingdom will have been elected by the end of the day today and the new interim committee will have kept its word of holding elections within a three to six month "re-organisation" period.

Unlike the last elections, in which only 60 women participated, over 400 elected representatives will choose the remaining 9 members of the National Executive Committee.

Along with the additional eight municipal council presidents, the nine elected women will embark on the task to lead the first democratically elected Women's Federation Executive Committee into a more politically free Jordan.

The federation has only been dinged by politics up till now and a women's dialogue as such on the role of women in a sphere beyond the social one has hardly been touched by previous executive committees.

While many women activists have been involved not only politically but also economically in the federation, the previous structure of the federation gave them no role and only after the democratisation of Jordan, in the post Nov. 1989 era, have they been given an active role in the federation.

While in the last two years Islamist women's groups have entered the Federation's arena as a

force to be reckoned with, it has been more leftist women who have traditionally challenged the previously conservative status quo.

"The times have changed in Jordan and even the women cannot turn back the clock, they will stand to be heard," said a female attorney who will participate in the elections.

In the meantime, the interim president, Ms. Kasseem, has sent out several messages in the local press urging the Islamist ladies to show up for elections. But so far, Ms. Zmelie and Ms. Saqaa have not budged.

The two serve with Ms. Kasseem on the second interim committee appointed by the Ministry of Social Development. An interim committee had to be appointed after the Higher Court of Justice ruled that the 1990 elections were null and void in late January of this year.

The court case involved charges over gerrymandering and unequal representation in last year's national elections. Political manipulation pitting Islamic and more secular women against each other was seen as largely the cause for the dispute.

Prince Hassan stresses need for inter-religious dialogue

ISTANBUL — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, in an address to a Christian-Muslim friendship and understanding meeting here, noted that the followers of the great monotheistic faiths pride themselves on the traditions of tolerance, understanding and mutual respect.

A dialogue among the faiths, the Prince said, provides a meaningful opportunity for a much-needed bridgehead to overcome fears and inhibitions and encourage interaction and joint efforts towards a better future.

Speaking during a visit to the Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Company (APMC) in Salt, Mr. Attas commended the high quality of Jordanian industrial and pharmaceutical products and paid tribute to the Jordanian industrialists' efforts.

The five-day meeting, dialogue for Christian Muslim Friendship and Understanding, is organised by the Council for the World's Religions.

Following is the text of the address:

It is my pleasure and privilege to address the elite gathering of Muslims and Christians participating in the international inter-religious conference on "Dialogue for Muslim-Christian Friendship and Understanding," held in Istanbul — a city which served as the capital of great Christian and Muslim empires — through gracious invitation of the Council for the World's Religions.

The questions raised by the convenors of the conference are both apt and timely. While wishing you every success, I regret not being able to participate due to previous commitments.

As members of an interdependent international community, we value the need for dialogue. It brings people together for an exchange of views and mutual consultation. Such need is becoming increasingly pressing in an age of informational explosion and knowledge expansion. The mass media has assumed unprecedented power that has transformed the world into a small global village.

As followers of the great monotheistic faiths we pride ourselves on the traditions of tolerance, understanding and mutual respect. A dialogue provides a meaningful opportunity for a much-needed bridgehead to overcome fears and inhibitions, and encourage interaction and joint efforts towards a better future.

Islam's call for dialogue is clear: In the Holy Quran, Allah (almighty God) orders the believer to: "Call unto the way of the creator with wisdom and fair exhortation, and argue with them in the kindest manner." (The Bees 16:125).

In this genuine Muslim spirit, and within our long-established Jordanian tradition of moderation and centrist approach, we have conducted — since 1984 — a three-stream interreligious dialogue with the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue (the Vatican), the Independent Commission of Christian-Muslim Relations in the United Kingdom, and the Orthodox Centre of the Ecumenical Patriarchate at Chambesy (Switzerland). Eight meetings have been held over the past seven years, covering a wide spectrum of topics.

I am sure that the papers presented to this learned gathering, and your discussions and analysis, will be a valuable addition to this continuing process of dialogue to highlight mutual interests and shared values.

Yemeni prime minister tours industrial plants, praises Jordan's efforts

Yemeni prime minister reflected the strong brotherly ties between the Yemeni and Jordanian people.

He said that Yemeni-Jordanian cooperation in a number of fields serves as a model for other Arab countries.

Earlier, the Yemeni delegation visited the Sahab Industrial City where they inspected carpet and ceramics plants. Dr. Fayez

Soheimat, the director general of the Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation (JIEC), briefed the Yemeni delegation on the industrial City and said it houses 222 factories, 30 of which were owned and operated by non-Jordanian Arab and foreign institutions and investors. He said that the Industrial City employs 6,200 workers, most of whom are from Jordan.

Later Tuesday, Mr. Attas and his delegation left Amman for home. They were seen off by Prime Minister Taher Masri, cabinet members and other Jordanian officials. Both Dr. Muliqi and Dr. Tou-

gan briefed the distinguished guests on their department's activities and services to the local community. The RSS is currently carrying out joint Yemeni-Jordanian projects in Yemen.

The plant manager, Dr. Maan Shuaqir, gave details about the various types of medicines and the amounts that are exported to Arab and foreign countries.

According to Dr. Shuaqir, the APMC, which was founded in the early 1960s, has so far sold JD 33.5 million worth of pharmaceutical products to other countries.

UNRWA to hold meeting in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — The advisory commission of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) is to hold its first-ever meeting in Amman today to discuss a host of issues related to Palestinian refugee services in the Arab World. All previous meetings were held at the UNRWA's Vienna headquarters.

The questions raised by the convenors of the conference are both apt and timely. While wishing you every success, I regret not being able to participate due to previous commitments.

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concentrating its attention on small-scale projects to help Palestinians earn a living.

The advisory commission members, expected in Amman Wednesday evening, are scheduled to tour a number of UNRWA schools and vocational centres and the Baqaa and Wihdat camps Saturday before leaving for a visit to the occupied Arab territories Sunday.

Czech minister supports implementation of U.N. resolutions 242 and 338

AMMAN (J.T.) — Czechoslovakia supports the rights of the Palestinian people in determining their future on their own homeland and the implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 to help achieve that goal, Czech Foreign Minister Martin Palous said in Amman Tuesday.

Czechoslovakia adheres to international principles and supports a lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict and is willing to offer facilities for a peace conference which can ensure lasting peace for all peoples in the Middle East, Mr. Palous said at a meeting with Deputy Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Fawzi Turmen and a number of deputies.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Mr. Palous said that after the political changes in his country, which took place in November 1989, the government de-

cided to reestablish diplomatic ties with Israel, severed since 1967.

The Jewish community plays a role within Czech society but at the same time Prague has been maintaining strong ties with the Arab World, Mr. Palous said.

He said that he hoped that Jordan would play a major role in trade between Czechoslovakia and the Arab World.

Mr. Palous, who on Sunday delivered a message to His Majesty King Hussein from Czech President Vaclav Havel, said his country would support the exchange of visits by parliamentarians from Jordan and Czechoslovakia to discuss issues and political affairs at all levels.

Discussions at the meeting in Parliament covered the projected peace conference and Czechoslovakia's position with regard to the Palestine question. Mr. Palous later wound up his four-day visit to Jordan and left for home.

The Housing Crisis

Government and the private sector: A continual process of finger pointing

This is the last in a series of articles that seek to examine the current housing crisis in Jordan. This article addresses the role of the private sector and its relationship to the government.

By Nidal M. Ibrahim
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The government, overwhelmed and unable to deal with the housing crisis, continually points to the private sector, saying that a national effort involving both entities will be necessary to address the problem.

But the private sector, finding itself in a building boom and not short of business, seems to be shrugging off the idea, leaving the government to go it alone.

"We want to release some projects to the private sector," said Nidal Qaqish, project manager for low cost housing with the Urban Development Department (UDD). "We want them to help."

Preliminary government estimates indicate that Jordan will need about 32,000 housing units to accommodate the mass influx of returnees.

Further exacerbating the problem is that many of the expatriates are returning to the Kingdom having lost most of their possessions and savings in Kuwait and other Gulf states. Therefore, what is needed to address their needs is low cost housing, Mr. Qaqish said.

The UDD builds an average of 1,000 low cost housing units per year, Mr. Qaqish said. He estimates that the number will

be doubled this year to help accommodate the refugees. At most, he said, the department would be able to build between 3,000 and 4,000 units per year if financing were available.

The private sector as a whole is not really sharing in low cost housing projects," said Ibrahim Daher, manager of the Low Cost Housing Department at the Housing Bank.

One of the problems for the private sector is that building low cost housing units is simply not as profitable as serving the needs of the upper and middle segments of the market, said Mohammed Al Kilani, vice president of the Jordan Association of Housing Projects, which represents about 35 major builders in the Kingdom.

The difference between the construction and selling price is made up through the sale, at market prices, of commercial shops in the centre of the project.

The units usually include nothing more than one room, a kitchen, a bathroom and some surrounding land on which to build additions in the future.

"We work on the strategy that if people have land to build upon, they will find financing to do so," Mr. Qaqish said. "It's very successful."

Mr. Qaqish added that low cost housing should not exceed JD 10,000, a figure which most builders are unable to meet.

Because of customs duties imposed on items such as cement and steel, the price of building materials makes it difficult for construction companies to effectively build low cost housing, Mr. Kilani said.

Also, the price of land in the Amman area — where most returnees are settling, according to studies — is prohibitive.

"The most important problem about this sector is that we need low cost land and low cost land is mostly to be found outside the municipality of Amman," Mr. Kilani said.

In addition, building on land in rural areas is not feasible at this time because there is no infrastructure in place to support

national and international investments.

Each housing unit costs the UDD an average of JD 7,500 to build, Mr. Qaqish said. The unit is then sold to a buyer for between JD 6,000 and JD 7,000.

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Conference addressing Jordan's population growth begins

By Maha Addasi
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in cooperation with the National Population Commission, started a conference Tuesday entitled "Population and Basic Needs of Jordan" in order to best solve the problems of the rapid increase in population in Jordan as a result of the influx of immigrants following the outbreak of the Gulf crisis.

The conference is taking place at the Plaza Hotel, with 150 participants representing all government areas, the private sector and some international organisations. The conference is expected to make basic recommendations and issue policy guidelines to cover population needs from 1991 until 2005, when Jordan's population is estimated to approximately double in size.

In the opening speech, Dr. Ali D. Attia, the regional representative for UNDP, said that "population in Jordan, now at 3,571,000 is expected to reach 5,670,000 by the year 2005. He added that the conference is taking place at a time when Jordan is facing economic and social challenges

which all require "intensive, urgent and immediate action."

There is imbalance between natural resources and population needs. This is a problem that increased after the rise in the number of immigrants, especially from Kuwait and other Gulf countries, who are estimated to be 300,000 in number," Dr. Attia said.

Mohammad Al Akel, the secretary general of the National Population Commission and the presenter of one of the working papers, said that action must be taken to limit the population growth rate. "We must increase the standard of living of the population and also emphasize the need for birth spacing, which is a programme under review by the government," Dr. Al Akel said.

The conference was opened by Her Royal Highness Princess Basma who referred to the wars of 1948, 1967 and 1991, which witnessed huge influxes of refugees converging on Jordan from Palestine and Kuwait. The influx has caused a severe pressure on Jordan's various services, creating new socio-economic difficulties like unemployment and sharply rais-

ing the cost of living in the Kingdom, the Princess said.

The difficult circumstances which Jordan has faced over the past several years helped the Jordanian people to improvise and to cope with new situations, the Princess said.

Minister of Labour Abdul Karim Al Daghmi commended the efforts of the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QAF) for following research and study in the field of population activities in the past decade.

The conference, the minister said, is being held at a crucial time when Jordan is witnessing changes bound to leave their impact on its future development and on people's daily lives.

The minister reviewed the activities of the National Population Commission, which among other things include a national programme for birth spacing and utilising the media to spread awareness among members of the public concerning population issues.

The working papers to be presented in the three-day conference cover the areas of the population's basic needs, water, food, housing, the health of mother and child and work opportunities.

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation
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Bush's missing line

U.S. President George Bush's call on the U.N. General Assembly Monday to repeal the 1975 U.N. resolution equating Zionism with racism is not the first attempt to remove that decision from customary international law nor would it be the last. Ever since that resolution was adopted in 1975, Israel and the 35 countries that voted against it, have been working feverishly to rescind it and obliterate any reference to it. The reason for this panic is obvious: There is considerable truth and validity in the proposition that Zionism, as applied and practised, is tantamount to racism in the sense that it distinguishes between people on the basis of religion and political creed when all international norms and standards call for the elimination of all discrimination on the basis of religion, ethnic background, political thought, sex or race. This principle of non-discrimination is well enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948 and all the following international human rights instruments that aimed to codify the ideals of the declaration, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination. To repeal the resolution now without calling on Israel to remove the discriminatory features of Zionism would be like rewriting the international norms and standards on human rights. There is little doubt that Israel is established on the edifice of Zionist ideals and policies which in turn discriminate openly between Jew and gentile in every conceivable way. The political implications of Zionism have included the displacement of the indigenous people of Palestine replacing them with Jews from all corners of the world. So, instead of calling for the removal of U.N. resolution 3379 from the annals of history, the concerned international community should direct its attention to correcting the negative characteristics of Zionism in order to bring it more in line with U.N. standards and principles. Otherwise, President Bush's latest call to repeal that resolution would be tantamount to putting the cart before the horse.

So a trade off could still be worked out between the cancellation of the resolution, which is a big thorn in the side of Israel and the rectification of the negative aspects of applied Zionism, especially in its social and political ramifications. There is nothing that would satisfy the Arab World and the 72 countries that voted in favour of that resolution than to have it abrogated by reversing the reasons for its adoption in the first place. The Israelis have stayed away from signing and ratifying so many U.N. treaties and conventions on human rights because deep in their hearts they know very well that their Zionist ideals and practices would fall terribly short of these instruments. The minute Israel is in a position to ratify such internationally accepted bodies of international law, the international community will be more than happy to repeal the 1975 resolution. Anything short of that would be tantamount to succumbing to Israel's blackmail for no good reason at all.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily Tuesday discussed a meeting by foreign ministers of Arab countries directly involved in the Palestine question and said that their meeting in New York Wednesday was of paramount importance at this juncture in view of the fast moving developments in the Middle East and the coming peace conference. The paper said that coordination of stands among these countries and cooperation with the PLO in this matter can help formulate a unified Arab position which will have a greater effect on the outcome of the peace process. The paper said it would be advisable for the Arab countries to set up a committee of experts in different specializations to ensure continued coordination in political matters which can help the decision-makers in dealing with any eventuality. The peace process is one of the greatest challenges facing the Arab World and its leaders, and it requires the mobilization of all expertise in order for the Arab Nation to regain usurped rights at the coming negotiations, the paper noted. Israel, said the paper, is mobilizing all its forces inside and outside the occupied Palestinian land in order to achieve its objectives within or outside the projected peace conference. The paper said it is therefore incumbent upon the Arab foreign ministers meeting in New York to come up with a proper machinery to ensure successful Arab plans at the peace conference.

NOW that the Palestine president has promised to give support to the peace process and to remove all obstacles at the pace of peace, it is inconceivable to believe that there can be major elements that can obstruct the U.S.-sponsored plan on the Arab side, said Sawt Al Shabab daily Tuesday. The paper said that the Palestinians, through their representatives at the Palestine National Council, have voiced their backing to the ongoing peace process spearheaded by President Bush. The Palestine president has clearly and openly announced his desire to put all his weight behind the American plan with the purpose of reaching a just and durable peace based on the international legitimacy, the paper added. What is left now is to see the Bush administration practically exercising pressure on Israel to force it to go to the peace conference and to respect the international legitimacy and the U.N. Security Council resolutions concerning the Arab-Israeli conflict, said the paper. The Palestine president is placing the world community face to face with its responsibility towards peace and towards forcing the aggressors to comply with the will of the United Nations and its resolutions, the paper added. By accepting the Bush peace plan and pledging to support all efforts for a peace conference, said the paper, Yasser Arafat has regained his position within the heads of the frontline states willing to participate in the peace parley. The paper said the Arabs are now called on to coordinate their position with that of Palestine towards reaching a unified stand for the coming peace negotiations.

Economic Forum

By Dr. Abdalla Malki

Long slow recovery on the way

WALKING along a 3-kilometre street in Amman last Sunday, I counted twenty four building sites for houses barely started and ten other housing units being extended or nearing completion. The following day, I noticed 12 other starts crammed along one kilometre stretch on another street. A friend volunteered to tell me that somebody had informed him that around six thousand building permits in the Amman area alone were issued recently. Such building starts are now a common feature in the Amman area and probably in most other urban centres.

Building activity, especially as measured by building starts, is an important indicator because it gauges the present level of economic activity and can foretell the future direction of the economy. In advanced economies, data on building starts is compiled instantly and released very early to enable dealers, policymakers and analysts to take timely decisions.

To my mind, the present spurt in housing activity in Jordan must be symptomatic of an economic upswing. The economy will successfully crawl out of the very last stage of recession into a recovery which will penetrate all economic sectors in the course of no more than one year. If such a recovery is rightly heralded by the present surge in property prices and the above-mentioned building pickup, it will be most erroneous to assume that the boom of the late seventies and early eighties will be replicated. That boom was some sort of a historical economic coincidence

which is almost impossible to reproduce. What we are anticipating is a shift in the business cycle that will produce a normal economic expansion that will advance very slowly but will be long indeed.

The figure of six thousand building permits is not over-optimistic in my view and can therefore serve as a basis for analysis. A building permit differs from the registration of a company with a capital of, say, one million dinars. The registration of this company itself does not mean that a million dinars will necessarily be spent out or invested. By contrast, issuing a building permit means that the respective building will be erected and, most probably, sooner rather than later and normally in the course of one to two years.

One can safely assume that each permit entails setting up a building that costs, on average, JD 50,000 or a total of JD 300 million for the whole lot. A very tiny part of this amount will come from bank loans and the remainder will be financed from savings because commercial banks do not finance housing activities except very fractionally.

According to (keynesian) multiplier analysis, savings constitute a leakage from the system that impedes income-generation (because you earn an income only if and when somebody else spends his money). Now the fact that most of the JD 300 million will be financed from those past leakages, namely savings (not

from bank loans), will magnify the positive effects of releasing these savings again into the income stream. (Bank funds are loaned away to be lent to, and spent by, somebody even if they are not lent to builders).

Over a number of years, say five years from now, spending JD 300 million on building will generate additional incomes of around JD 1,000 million. To us, these incomes will provide the blood necessary to ignite recovery in the near future and to help in sustaining it afterwards. We estimate that Jordan will need 50,000 residential units over the next five years so that expenditure on building units will be sustained at high levels throughout this period. A building permit may cover an average of four housing units, implying that at least another six thousand permits are in the pipeline and with them extra spending of JD 300 million which will generate another JD 1,000 million of potential income.

Investment, that is initial spending, of JD 600 million is capable of fueling and sustaining a long economic expansion. And the figures in the analysis above, especially with regard to the average cost corresponding to each building permit (JD 50,000), are very conservative. More encouraging results will be obtained from more liberal ones. But, of course, the above scenario implicitly assumes the prevalence of political stability in the area. I, for one, am ready to bet on ruling out political upheavals throughout the next five years and stick to the imminent recovery hypothesis.

Crux of loan feud: Mistrust and Israeli anxiety

By Thomas L. Friedman
New York Times Service

DAMASCUS — The struggle between the Bush administration and Israel over the question of Israeli housing-loan guarantees is such an explosive and illuminating story because it brings together all of the underlying — often unspoken — anxieties, tensions and contradictions in the relationship between America and Israel.

This struggle is about everything other than \$10 billion in loan guarantees.

It is about Israel's anxiety over America's changing role in the world; it is about conflicting instincts within the Bush administration over how to make peace in the Middle East; it is about the mutual mistrust between Israelis and President George Bush; and it is about Israel's inability to face up to its own fateful choices regarding the future of the occupied territories.

At its broadest level, one of the deepest anxieties animating the Israelis in this struggle is their intuitive sense that now that the United States has become the world's only superpower, that it is moving, and will continue to move, from Israel's patron in global affairs to a more neutral umpire, dispassionately mediating between Israel and its Arab neighbours.

It was revealing to note that one of the written assurances that the government of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir contemplated requesting of Secretary of State James Baker before Israel would go to a peace conference was some sort of general commitment from the United States to be sympathetic to Israel at the conference, because Israel would have no other friends there.

The Israelis understand that without the backdrop of U.S.-Soviet competition, America's natural inclination to side with Israel, just because Moscow was siding with the Arabs, is greatly diminished.

Also, the loan-guarantee issue has brought to the center of Israeli politics a question that the country's leaders have been trying to avoid since they cap-

tured the West Bank and Gaza Strip in 1967: What to do with these territories?

For 24 years, successive U.S. administrations have opposed Israeli settlement-building in the occupied territories. They have called settlements everything from "illegal" to an "obstacle to peace." But one thing no administration has ever done is to act on its principles and tell the Israelis that unless they curb their settlements the United States will limit economic assistance.

NEWS ANALYSIS

It is precisely because no U.S. administration would ever do that that the Israelis have been able to have it all ways: Settlements and American aid and no confrontations with Washington.

What Mr. Bush has decided is that it is finally time for the United States to put some teeth into its own principles. The president has told the Israelis that they will not get their loan guarantees now without some severe restrictions on their settlement activities in the occupied territories.

Many Israelis and many American Jews who support what Mr. Bush is doing believe he made one major mistake in deciding to draw the line on the question of housing-loan guarantees for Soviet immigrants rather than on

what Israel's de facto annexation of the West Bank is doing to the country.

"What Bush should have done," said an Israeli political theorist, Yaron Ezrahi, "is frame the issue like this: 'The whole rationale for Israel, the whole reason we Americans and Jews around the world support it, is because it is conceived as a democratic state where a Jewish majority can thrive and achieve its full potential.'

This has put American Jewish leaders in a difficult position. To stand with the president is to appear ready to sacrifice housing for Russian immigrants over a point of principle. But to stand with Israel is to risk making the question of aid to the Jewish state a subject for a national debate in the United States, which makes many Jewish Americans uncomfortable.

Many Israelis and many American Jews who support what Mr. Bush is doing believe he made one major mistake in deciding to draw the line on the question of housing-loan guarantees for Soviet immigrants rather than on

cally hostile, as some Israeli officials recently charged. It does mean, though, that they insist on dealing with Israel as just another pragmatic foreign policy question.

But Israelis are a people that dwell alone. If someone does not love them, they think they hate them. There is no emotion in the middle ground for them, although the Bush administration's whole approach to peace-making is based almost entirely on terms dictated by Mr. Shamir. The Israelis nevertheless see the Bush administration as hostile. The reason, said one former State Department official, is "the head heart split."

"When I think your heart is not in the right place, it doesn't matter where your head is or what you're saying," he said. "It is never going to be enough. If I know where your heart is, then I'm not going to worry about the details so much. American Jews just don't believe that this administration's heart is in the right place. They always want to wrangle over the details." — International Herald Tribune.

U.S. looks for ways to help make Soviet capitalism work

By Rich Miller
Reuter

WASHINGTON — U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady returned from the Soviet Union last week convinced that America must seal its victory over communism by helping Moscow make capitalism work.

"What we're seeing is democracy and free-market capitalism in the formative stage," he said on the plane returning from a four-day trip to Moscow and Kiev. "Under Baker it was clear that the U.S. administration did not want to let them know we want to help."

In the short-term, that means shipping food and medical supplies to the Soviet Union during the winter and working with Moscow to avoid a default on its \$70 billion foreign debt.

In the longer-term, it means the establishment of a job-training programme to teach the Soviet people the rudimentary skills of capitalism, and possibly rescheduling that would give the cash-strapped country more time to pay.

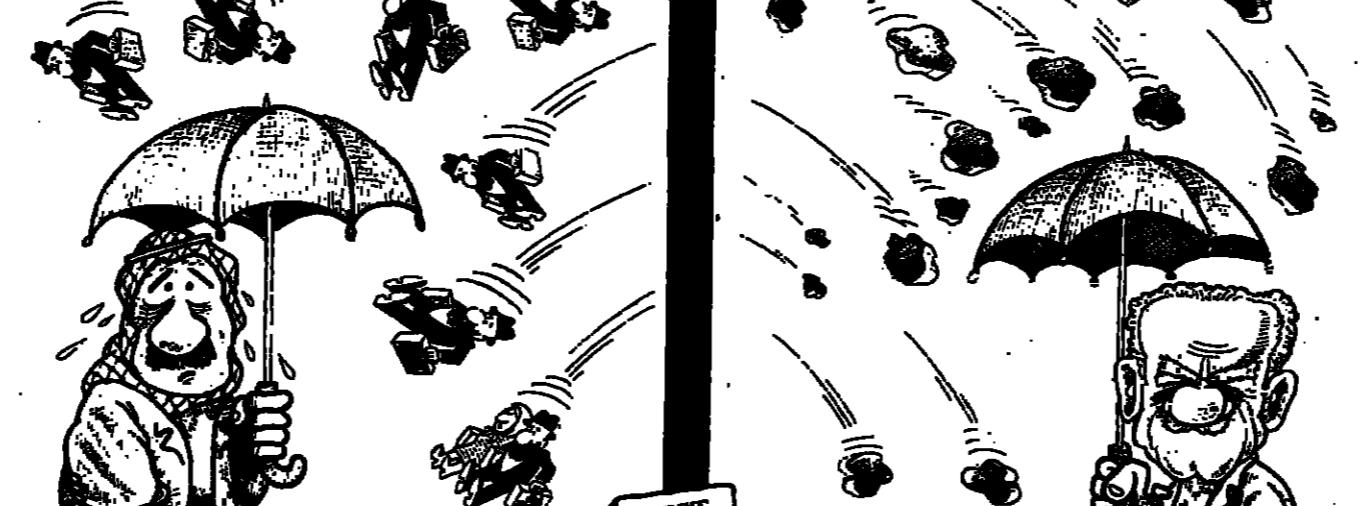
But Mr. Brady and Alan Greenspan, the chairman of the U.S. central bank — the Federal Reserve — came away from their tour of the Soviet Union convinced that the solution to the country's economic ills was not just, or even primarily, Western government money.

"I don't think essentially what these people need is money," Mr. Brady said. "They have a liquidity problem but they're the largest oil producer in the world and one of the largest producers of gold. They have the wherewithal in this country to get the job done."

What the Soviet Union lacks, in Mr. Brady's view, are the basic skills that make capitalism work. That's everything from accountants to marketing specialists.

Mr. Brady proposed a "professional peace corps" that would marshall together experts from U.S. business schools and the U.S. business community to teach the Soviet people what it takes to run a successful market economy.

U.S. officials recognise, nevertheless, that the country will need financial assistance in the years ahead to make the transition from communism to capitalism.



Baker has extracted concessions but the impossible lies ahead

By Jonathan Wright
Reuter

NICOSIA — Six months into his campaign to arrange a Middle East peace conference, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has achieved what once looked impossible.

The trouble is that other impossibilities lie ahead of him and doubt persists that the conference will convene as planned in October.

Israel, which for years rejected a multilateral peace conference with the political clout of an unchallenged superpower, Mr. Baker has persuaded Israel, Syria, the Palestinians and the Gulf Arab states to make concessions which went right against the grain of traditional policy.

But on the issue at the centre of the Arab-Israeli conflict since the 1967 Arab-Israeli war — the status of the occupied West Bank, Gaza Strip and Golan Heights — it is hard to see where peace talks would lead to if they do go ahead.

Over the months of complex negotiations, in which Mr. Baker jugged one demand against another and tried to find a middle way that all sides could accept, the parties to the conflict have given ground on at least seven points:

— The Palestinians, who have been campaigning vigorously for an independent state, have

agreed in principle to go to the talks as part of a joint delegation with Jordan.

— The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), suspending temporarily its previous claims, has agreed that PLO members need not be among the Palestinian delegates to the conference.

— The Arab states have dropped an earlier demand for a freeze on new Jewish settlements in the occupied territories before the conference opens. This allows Israel to create new facts on the ground even as the talks are under way.

— Syria, once the bastion of opposition to anything other than a full U.N.-sponsored conference, has agreed to go into bilateral talks with Israel, mainly on the Syrian Golan Heights. But it has promised it will not make a separate peace as long as the Palestinian problem is not solved.

— The conservative Arab states of the Gulf, grateful to Washington for driving Iraqi forces out of Kuwait in February, have agreed to send an observer to the talks and possibly to join negotiations on regional issues such as water resources.

This amount of progress may look impressive on paper but it could pale to insignificance in comparison with the obstacles to a full settlement of the 43-year-old conflict.

Even before the conference meets, Mr. Baker must finesse

the problem of Palestinian representation.

The PLO is holding out for the right to announce the names of the delegates and to include representatives from East Jerusalem, which Israel annexed immediately after the 1967 war.

Israel says it will not attend unless Jerusalem Arabs are excluded and Palestinian delegates are entirely to its liking.

Arab opponents of the peace conference, such as the PLO dissident groups based in Damascus, say that if the talks lead to anything it would be separate treaties between Israel and its Arab neighbours, similar to the Israeli-Egyptian treaty of 1979.

After that treaty, Israel and Egypt held several years of inconclusive talks on autonomy for Palestinians in the occupied territory. Israel offered to let the Palestinians run day-to-day affairs but refused to withdraw or stop building settlements.

The Israeli government shows no sign of changing tack on the occupied territories. It refuses to withdraw and is pressing ahead with settlements, complicating any land-for-peace deal.

Israeli opposition leader Shimon Peres, unwittingly agreeing with the Arab radicals, said Sunday the peace conference may offer no more than a photo opportunity.

Financial Markets **Jordan Times**
in co-operation with
Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets		NEW YORK CLOSE	TOKYO CLOSE
Currency	Date 23/9/91	Date 24/9/91	
Sterling Pound*	1.7435	1.6913	
Deutsche Mark	1.6751	1.6727	
Swiss Franc	1.4590	1.4577	
French Franc	5.7000	5.7125 **	
Japanese Yen	132.74	132.97	
European Currency Unit	1.2235	1.2221 **	

USD Per STG
* European Opening & 1600 a.m. GMT
** Interbank interest rates

INTERBANK BID RATES FOR AMOUNTS EXCEEDING U.S. DOLLARS 1,000,000 OR EQUIVALENT.			
PRECIOUS METALS			
Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	5.50	5.50	5.60
Sterling Pound	10.31	10.12	10.06
Deutsche Mark	9.06	9.12	9.25
Swiss Franc	8.06	8.00	8.06
French Franc	9.18	9.31	9.37
Japanese Yen	6.87	6.46	6.18
European Currency Unit	9.81	9.81	9.81

INTERBANK BID RATES FOR AMOUNTS EXCEEDING U.S. DOLLARS 1,000,000 OR EQUIVALENT.

PRECIOUS METALS Date: 24/9/91

Metal USD/Oz JD/Gm² Metal USD/Oz JD/Gm²

Gold 351.60 6.80 Silver 4.23 .095

21 Karat

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Date: 24/9/91

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	.686	.688
Sterling Pound	1.1942	1.2002
Deutsche Mark	.4099	.4119
Swiss Franc	.4702	.4726
French Franc	.1203	.1209
Japanese Yen*	.5158	.5184
Dutch Guilder	.3637	.3655
Swedish Krona	.1130	.1130
Italian Lira*	.0548	.0551
Belgian Franc	.01987	.01997

Per 100 OTHER CURRENCIES Date: 24/9/91

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.7850	1.7700
Lebanese Lira*	.0770	.0775
Saudi Riyal	.1826	.1834
Kuwaiti Dinar	-	-
Qatari Riyal	.1859	.1870
Egyptian Pound	.2000	.2100
Oman Riyal	1.7200	1.7300
UAE Dirham	.1859	.1870
Greek Drachma*	.3650	.3700
Cypriot Pound	1.4600	1.4700

Per 100 CDS INDICES FOR ASIAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Index	22/9/91	Close	23/9/91	Close
All-Share	118.76	119.31		
Banking Sector	99.12	99.95		
Insurance Sector	120.29	120.49		
Industry Sector	146.97	148.89		
Services Sector	126.94	126.77		

December 31, 1990 = 100

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.7367/77	U.S. dollars	Canadian dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.1341/46	Canadian dollar	Danishmarks
	1.6763/70	Danishmarks	Dutch guilders
	1.8860/70	Dutch guilders	Swiss francs
	1.4610/20	Swiss francs	Belgian francs
	34.54/58	Belgian francs	French francs
	5.7125/75	French francs	Italian lire
	1254/1255	Italian lire	Japanese yen
	132.85/95	Japanese yen	Swedish crowns
	6.1100/50	Swedish crowns	Norwegian crowns
	6.5600/50	Norwegian crowns	Danish crowns
	5.4750/4800	Danish crowns	U.S. dollars
One ounce of gold	351.20/351.70	U.S. dollars	

December 31, 1990 = 100

Source: The Times, London

** Interbank interest rates

*** Interbank interest rates

**** Interbank interest rates

***** Interbank interest rates

